Claims

What is claimed is:

- [c1] A method for dynamically casting an object graph, comprising:

 creating an internal representation using a root object of the object graph;

 instantiating a cast object graph using a casting rule and the internal representation; and

 populating the cast object graph.
- [c2] The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 instantiating a cast object graph attribute using the casting rule and the internal representation.
- [c3] The method of claim 1, further comprising: retrieving the root object using a variable usage specification.
- [c4] The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 obtaining a class definition, wherein the class definition is used to create the
 internal representation.
- [c5] The method of claim 4, wherein the class definition is generated at runtime by a transport packager.
- [c6] The method of claim 1, wherein the casting rule comprises a casting method.
- [c7] The method of claim 6, wherein the casting method implements a mapping method.
- [c8] The method of claim 6, wherein the casting method implements a suffix method.
- [c9] The method of claim 6, wherein the casting method implements a parser method.

- [c10] The method of claim 1, wherein the internal representation is a serialized file.
- [c11] A method for dynamically casting an object graph, comprising:

 retrieving a root object of the object graph using a variable usage specification;

 obtaining a class definition, wherein the class definition is used to create an internal representation;

creating the internal representation using the root object of the object graph;

instantiating a cast object graph using a casting rule and the internal representation;

populating the cast object graph; and

instantiating a cast object graph attribute using the casting rule and the internal representation.

- [c12] A distributed computer system, comprising:
 - a client;
 - a server operatively connected to the client;
 - a client-side transport packager located on the client;
 - a server-side transport packager located on the server;
 - means for creating an internal representation using a root object of the object graph;
 - means for instantiating a cast object graph using a casting rule and the internal representation; and
 - means for populating the cast object graph.
- [c13] The distributed computer system of claim 12, further comprising:

 means for instantiating a cast object graph attribute using the casting rule and the internal representation.
- [c14] The distributed computer system of claim 12, further comprising:
 means for retrieving the root object using a variable usage specification.

- [c15] The distributed computer system of claim 12, further comprising:
 means for obtaining a class definition, wherein the class definition is used to create
 the internal representation.
- [c16] The distributed computer system of claim 15, wherein the class definition is generated at runtime by a transport packager.
- [c17] The distributed computer system of claim 12, wherein the casting rule comprises a casting method.
- [c18] The distributed computer system of claim 17, wherein the casting method implements a mapping method.
- [c19] The distributed computer system of claim 17, wherein the casting method implements a suffix method.
- [c20] The distributed computer system of claim 17, wherein the casting method implements a parser method.
- [c21] The distributed computer system of claim 12, wherein the internal representation is a serialized file.
- [c22] A distributed computer system, comprising:
 - a client;
 - a server operatively connected to the client;
 - a client-side transport packager located on the client;
 - a server-side transport packager located on the server;
 - means for retrieving a root object of the object graph using a variable usage specification;
 - means for obtaining a class definition, wherein the class definition is used to create an internal representation

- means for creating the internal representation using the root object of the object graph;
- means for instantiating a cast object graph using a casting rule and the internal representation;
- means for populating the cast object graph; and
- means for instantiating a cast object graph attribute using the casting rule and the internal representation.
- [c23] An apparatus for dynamically casting an object graph, comprising:
 - means for retrieving a root object of the object graph using a variable usage specification;
 - means for obtaining a class definition, wherein the class definition is used to create an internal representation;
 - means for creating the internal representation using the root object of the object graph;
 - means for instantiating a cast object graph using a casting rule and the internal representation;
 - means for populating the cast object graph; and
 - means for instantiating a cast object graph attribute using the casting rule and the internal representation.